I help y certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Clare Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the see shown below.

Dated Date 7, 2004 Signature: O. L. March Harrey

Hr.

Docket No.: 07244-00111-US

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Ralf Wichmann et al.

Allowed: July 29, 2004

Application No.: 09/919678

Confirmation No.: 6224

Filed: August 1, 2001

Art Unit: 1752

For: BLEACH BATH

Examiner: H. V. Le

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 CFR §1.104(E)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant has received the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance with the July 29, 2004 Notices of Allowance and Allowability regarding the above-identified application. Entry of the Statement into the record should not be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence in the reasoning stated by the Examiner. Each of the claims stands on its own merits and is patentable because of the combination it recites and not because of the presence or absence of any one particular element.

The Examiner's Statement was not prepared by Applicant and only contains the Examiner's possible positions in one or more reasons for allowability. Thus, any interpretation with respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be imputed to the Applicant.

As the Examiner has correctly stated (see paragraph no. II at page 6 of the Notice of Allowance), the prior art applied against the claims (Kuse), does not disclose, teach or suggest

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the claimed solution for use in a color reversal process. Therefore, the claims as presented are patentable.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 07244-00111-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: October 7, 2004

Respectfully submitted

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